

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus, comprising:  
a size adjusting unit to, if an image is not evenly divisible into a number of fixed size regions that are equivalently sized, adjust the size of the image at a stage in an encoding process to form a size-adjusted image so that the size-adjusted image becomes evenly divisible into the regions; ~~and~~  
an encoding unit to encode the size-adjusted image by the regions into a codestream-; and  
an information attaching unit to attach, to the codestream, information related to the size of the image before the adjustment of size.
2. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the encoding unit encodes the size-adjusted image with a JPEG 2000 algorithm.
3. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the size adjusting unit adjusts the size of the image by adding pixels of a predetermined pixel value to the image.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the size adjusting unit adjusts the size of the image at a stage between a component transform and a discrete wavelet transform.

6. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the size adjusting unit adjusts the size of the image at a stage between a discrete wavelet transform and a bit modeling.

7. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the size adjusting unit adjusts the size of the image at a stage between bit modeling and arithmetic encoding.

8. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the size adjusting unit adjusts the size of the image at a stage after arithmetic encoding.

9. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
the image processing apparatus having  
a size adjusting unit to, if an image is not evenly divisible into a number of fixed size regions that are equivalently sized, adjust the size of the image at a stage in an encoding process to form a size-adjusted image so that the size-adjusted image becomes evenly divisible into the regions; and

an encoding unit to encode the size-adjusted image by the regions into a codestream; and  
a storage unit that stores the codestream generated by the image processing apparatus;

a decoding unit that decodes the codestream stored in the storage unit; ~~and~~

a printer engine that forms an image based on the decoded codestream; and

an information attaching unit to attach, to the codestream, information related to the size of the image before the adjustment of size.

10. (Currently Amended) An image decoding apparatus, comprising:  
a decoding unit to decode a codestream encoded by an image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 into a size-adjusted image; ~~and~~, wherein information related to the size of an image before size adjustment is attached to the codestream; and  
an inverse size ~~adjusting~~ adjustment unit to re-adjust the size of the size-adjusted image at a stage in a decoding process to form an original image based on information related to the size of the original image attached to the codestream.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of processing an image, the method comprising:  
adjusting, if an image is not evenly divisible into a number of equally sized regions of a predetermined and fixed size, the size of the image at a stage in an encoding process to form a size-adjusted image so that the size-adjusted image becomes evenly divisible by the regions; ~~and~~  
encoding the size-adjusted image by the regions into a codestream; and  
attaching, to the codestream, information related to the size of the image before the adjustment.

12. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture having one or more recordable medium storing instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method comprising:

adjusting the size of the image, if an image is not evenly divisible into a number of equally sized regions of a predetermined and fixed size, at a stage in an encoding process to form a size-adjusted image so that the size-adjusted image becomes evenly divisible by the regions;  
~~and~~

encoding the size-adjusted image by the regions into a codestream; and  
attaching, to the codestream, information related to the size of the image before the  
adjustment.

13. (Original) The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 12, wherein the computer, when encoding the size-adjusted image, encodes the size-adjusted image with JPEG 2000 algorithm.

14. (Original) The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 12, wherein the computer, when adjusting the size of the image, adjusts the size of the image by adding pixels of a predetermined pixel value to the image.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The image processing apparatus defined in Claim 1 wherein the regions are tiles.

17. (Original) The image forming apparatus defined in Claim 9 wherein the regions are tiles.

18. (Original) The method defined in Claim 11 wherein the regions are tiles.
19. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in Claim 12 wherein the regions are tiles.